6/6/70

NOTE ON PHOTOS OF JFK CLOTHING, FBI EXHIBITS 59 and 60

I recently received photographic copies of the pages from the FBI report which show the clothes plus close-ups of the bullet holes, shirt slits, and tie nick. These are from the page, not the actual photographs, and were received and ordered through the Archives. They are, however, considerably clearer than anything which has been published, and they have certain values.

There is really nothing to add on the jacket and shirt.

The photo of the shirt slits is the clearest one I have ever seen, though not clear enough. However, it is devastating. It makes fiction the contention that there were two vertical slits in the shirt. There are not. There are at least three, with a possible fourth which is almost horizontal.

On the side of the collar where there is a botton hole, there is a long slit which is curved somewhat into an arc. Some of the edges appear frayed, yet the quality of the picture inhibits proper iterpretation. This slit does not have what might be a bullet hole at the bottom, as I had previously though upon seeing poorer photos. A slight distance from this slit (at about 7 o'clock) is another slit, about half as long and perfectly straight, almost like a bottonhole although it most certainly is not one. This second slit is on the same side of the shirt as the first mentioned and has never been referred to in the published record.

The slit on the side of the shirt where the bottons are is most difficult to analyze, the photos offering a number of possible interpretations. It does appear to be very irregular, although details of the edges are not apparent in most cases. There is one part of this slit, however, which emanates at about 3 o'clock from the "main" slit, and is almost horizontal. This slit is very regular, with no frayed edges, and appears to have been cut by some sharp intrument into the shirt.

The second slit mentioned (which has previously been suppressed) also appears to have been cut manually. With the exception of these two cuts, the other slit areas do not appear clear enough in the photo for evaluation as to what caused them. It is possible that repeated application of a cutting instrument in this area disrupted the otherwise clean cut edges of the slits.

There are some dark spots on the left collar which I cannot explain. Because the dark lines in the shirt are definately interrupted by these spots, they are definately not stains. They are either defects in the materil or some foreign substances on the shirt. There is the chance, I suppose, that this could be brain matter although it seems unlikely since that might drop off upon drying. Only an examination of the shirt can resolve what this is.

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